

**ETAPOCANGA, A NEW GENUS AND TWO NEW SPECIES OF
NEOTROPICAL FLEA BEETLE (COLEOPTERA:
CHRYSOMELIDAE: ALTICINAE)**

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Abstract.—A new genus, *Etapocanga*, and two new species of Alticinae (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), *Etapocanga pysuna* and *Etapocanga consejera* from Amazonian South America are described and illustrated.

Resumen.—Se describe y ilustra un nuevo género, *Etapocanga*, y dos especies nuevas de Alticinae (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) de América amazónica.

While preparing a monograph of genus *Pedilia* Clark, 1865, I encountered material of a new genus in the flea beetle tribe Disonychini. This genus could be confused with *Pedilia* Clark because of its asymmetrical and highly emarginate eye or less likely with *Paralactica* Bechyné and Bechyné, 1961. *Paralactica* is superficially similar to this genus, because of its elongate habitus, comparatively large size and fulvousness. In *Paralactica*, however, the eyes are symmetrically emarginate, the emargination taking the form of a notch (Bechyné and Bechyné, 1977, their fig. 3).

This genus is easily distinguished from *Monomacra* Chevrolat, 1837, *Parchicola* Bechyné and Bechyné, 1975, and *Utingaltica* Bechyné and Bechyné, 1961 because of its eye shape (see Fig. 2). It is also distinguished from *Disonycha* Chevrolat, 1837 and *Phenrica* Bechyné, 1959 by the presence of a prebasal pronotal impression (see Fig. 1).

This new genus is described below so it may be included in a phylogenetic analysis of the tribe Disonychini in a manuscript in preparation.

Terminology used to describe the dorsal process of the median orifice of the aedeagus is taken from Duckett (1993).

Etapocanga, new genus

(Figs. 1, 2, 3A–G)

Type species. *Etapocanga pysuna*, new species.

Diagnosis. *Etapocanga* is distinguished from *Pedilia* by pronounced transverse prebasal pronotal impression, long gracile antennae and less extremely incrassate metafemora and from all other Neotropical genera by the asymmetrical emargination of the eye (Fig. 2).

Description. Body robust, broadly ovate, convex, 6.8–7.6 mm long, 4.0–4.4 mm wide at elytral midpoint (Fig. 1), color uniformly fulvous: mandibles and antennae piceous.

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Fig. 1. *Etapocanga pysuna*, dorsal habitus.

Head ovate (Fig. 2), occiput broader than eye at widest point; vertex glabrous, one post-ocular seta. Eye emarginate, upper lobe slightly smaller than lower lobe (see Fig. 2). Post-antennal calli distinct, trapezoidal, delimited on three sides by sutures. Transverse frontal carina pronounced, convex, widened over labrum, extending to mandibular bases; transverse carina confluent with longitudinal frontal carina; longitu-

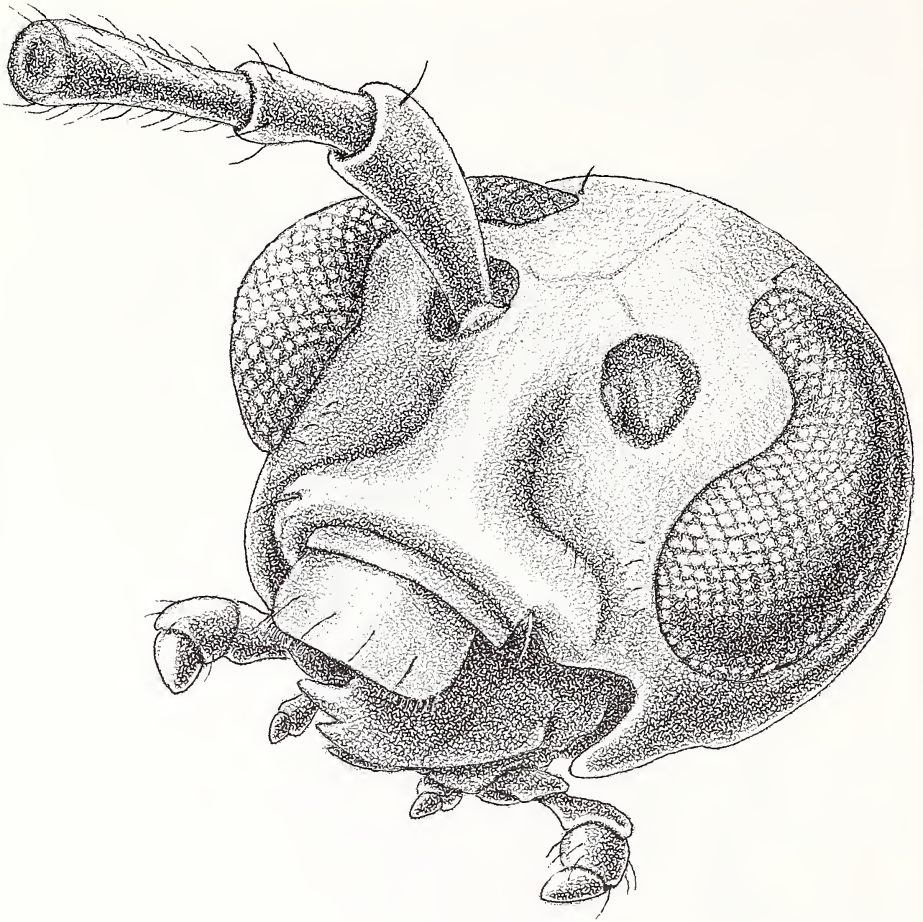


Fig. 2. Head of *Etapocanga pysuna*, antennae removed.

dinal carina convex, extending between the antennal sockets, dorsally delimited by suture. Clypeus and labrum transverse. Labrum with dense row of apical bristles. Mandible with four teeth. Maxillary palpus robust, penultimate segment slightly incrassate.

Antenna long, filiform, sparsely pubescent, extending beyond elytral midpoint; antennomere II the shortest element, sub-trapezoidal; antennomere III wider apically than basally; antennomeres IV–X cylindrical, 3–4× longer than wide; XI with sub-apical constriction, antennomere appearing annulated.

Pronotum glabrous, transverse, convex, width at base 2× length, anterior angles rounded and abutting posterior margin of eyes, with seta on posterior edge of anterior angle, setal pit prominent; pronotal lateral margins distinct, narrow, accompanied by single row of punctures one antennal width (antennomere VI) mesad of margin. Posterior angles minute, directed posteriorly. Prebasal impression narrow, clearly

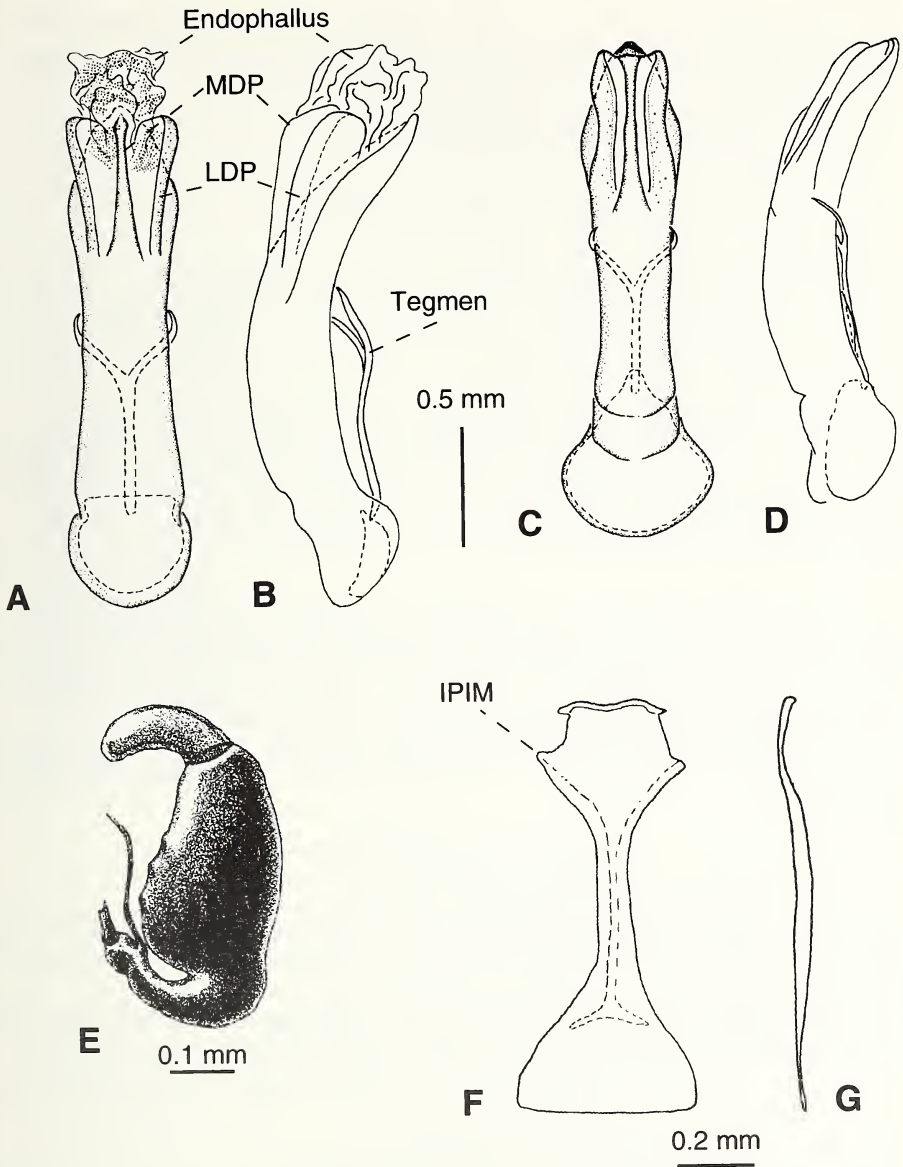


Fig. 3. *Etapocanga* genitalia. A, *E. pysuna* median lobe, dorsal view, B, lateral view. C, *E. consejera* median lobe dorsal view, D, lateral view. E, *E. pysuna* spermatheca. F, *E. pysuna* sternite VIII, ventral view, G, lateral view. MDP = Median dorsal process, LDP = Lateral dorsal process, IPIM = Insertion point of intersegmental membrane.

delimited laterally and anteriorly (see Fig. 1). Elytra combined slightly wider than pronotal base; humeral callus indistinct; elytral punctuation confused. Elytral margin narrow; epipleuron horizontal, wide at humerus gradually narrowing, becoming obsolete near elytral apex. Scutellum triangular, glabrous.

Prosternum with anterior angle abutting ventral lobe of eye; anterior portion of prosternum broader than one antennal width, without sculpturing; prosternal process extending beyond procoxal cavities, narrowing between coxae, widening posteriorly. Procoxa round. Procoxal cavity open. Mesosternum slightly excavated anteriorly to receive prosternal process, narrow posteriorly, posterior edge sharply notched. Mesocoxa round. Metasternum long, broad, finely pubescent. Metacoxa narrow, transverse, tapered laterally. Leg robust; metafemur incrassate; metatibia bearing short apical spur, small apical lateral comb present; tarsi broad, broadest in males, tarsomere III bilobed; claws appendiculate.

Abdomen finely pubescent. Pygidium formed from tergum VIII, rounded.

Male genitalia (Fig. 3A, B) with median lobe elongate, tubular, with three processes dorsal to median orifice. Ventral lip of median lobe triangular, widest near midpoint of dorsal processes. Median dorsal process narrow, apex in same plane. Lateral dorsal process width variable, apex recurved medially. Endophallus with microtrichia.

Female genitalia with epiproct, gonapophyses and gonocoxae absent. Sternite VIII with apex broad; attachment of intersegmental membrane pointed; broad basally, basal edge flat (Fig. 3F) spoon-shaped in lateral view (Fig. 3G). Spermatheca (Fig. 3E) with curved parallel-sided pump; receptacle ovate, with prominent ridges for insertion of spermathecal muscle; proximal spermathecal duct expanded.

Distribution. Amazonian Brazil and Venezuela.

Etymology. From Tupí, a language indigenous to Amazonian Brazil, *Etapocanga* meaning rare.

***Etapocanga pysuna*, new species**

(Figs. 1, 2, 3A, B, E-G)

Diagnosis. *E. pysuna* is distinguished from *E. consejera* by piceous tarsi. Males are also distinguished by the very narrow lateral dorsal process of the median lobe of aedeagus.

Description. Body elongate oval (Fig. 1), 6.8–7.6 mm long, 4.0–4.4 mm wide, color fulvous, mandibles, antennae and tarsi piceous, lateral apices of tibiae darkened.

Head with pronounced longitudinal frontal carina, widened above labrum. Antenna with antennomere I fulvous laterally, antennomere III shorter than IV; antennomeres VIII–XI very delicate.

Pronotum, elytron and venter as in generic description.

Male genitalia (Fig. 3A, B) elongate, thin, with ventral lip triangular, apex with minute median projection. Median dorsal process thin, apex pointed with slight apical broadenings. Lateral dorsal process thin, apices recurved medially.

Female genitalia with sternite VIII broad apically, apex slightly sinuate, with narrow apical ridge; insertion point of intersegmental membrane pointed; base wide; posterior edge flat (Fig. 3F). Spermatheca (Fig. 3E) with pump curved, receptacle ovate with ridges in lower half; proximal spermathecal duct broad at receptacle, short, narrowing gradually to gland valve.

Distribution. Amazonia and Río Javary.

Holotype. ♂ BRAZIL: Amazonas, Benj. Constant, Río Javary, xi. 1960, Dirings., (MZUP).

Paratype. ♀ Amazonas, 67-56, Baly coll. (BMNH).

Etymology. From Tupí, *py*, meaning foot, and *suna*, meaning black.

Etapocanga consejera, new species

(Fig. 3C, D)

Diagnosis. This species can be distinguished from *E. pysuna* by fulvous tarsi and by the widened apex of the median dorsal process of the median lobe and wider lateral process of the aedeagus.

Description. Body elongate oval (see Fig. 1) 7.0 mm long, 4.0 mm wide, color fulvous; mandibles and antennae piceous.

Head with frontal carina robust. Antenna with antennomeres I and XI fulvous; antennomere III shorter than IV; antennomeres VIII–XI delicate.

Pronotum, elytron and venter as in generic description.

Male genitalia (Fig. 3C, D) with ventral lip triangular. Median dorsal process thin, apex truncated, slightly broadened. Lateral dorsal process wider than tegmen; apices recurved medially.

Female unknown.

Distribution. Known only from the type locality.

Holotype, ♂, VENEZUELA: Territorio Federal Amazonas, Occamo 13.iv.1965, F. Fernandez Y. (MIZA).

Etymology. From the Spanish, *consejera*, meaning counselor or teacher, in recognition of the formative influence of the collector, Francisco Fernandez Yopez, on Venezuelan entomology and entomologists.

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